

SECRET

DPD-5260-59

3 August 1959

### PROGRAM APPROVAL

#### 1. PURPOSE:

To modify rear main cargo door for C-118 aircraft which can be opened in flight. Present arrangement requires removal of cargo door prior to take-off. This has the following disadvantages:

a. Crew and passengers forced to wear oxygen masks for periods up to 8-10 hours at altitudes of 20,000 - 25,000 feet.

b. Fatigue and loss of alertness of crew and agents to be dropped results from spending many hours on oxygen and without pressurization.

c. Flying without the cargo door in place tends to weaken the fuselage and is dangerous to fly in turbulent air conditions.

d. Removal of door prior to flight compromises security in that it tends to indicate that aircraft is involved in a drop mission.

#### 2. DESCRIPTION OF WORK OR SERVICES REQUIRED:

Modification requested requires the procurement of a C-118 rear main cargo door from USAF, and will permit modification without tying up aircraft. This door would have an inner door cut into it about same size as the forward compartment door. The modification must be such as to retain the original cargo door strength, permit pressurized flight, be easily removed in flight and be compatible with the roller conveyor system.

#### 3. EXPECTED ADDITIONAL OR RELATED WORK OR SERVICES:

None

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

#### 4. TOTAL ESTIMATED COST: \$20,604

\$15,000 engineering labor, and material (not including door).

\$ 5,604 cost of door to be obtained from USAF sources.

Funds have been included in the FY-1960 budget.

